

PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 05788:0189

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Ple  
R. L. Condit  
2-15-02

In re Continuation of:

PCT/EP00/04134

Inventor: Giacomo Stefano ROBA et al.

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

Filed: November 1, 2001

For: METHOD AND INDUCTION FURNACE  
FOR DRAWING LARGE DIAMETER  
PREFORMS TO OPTICAL FIBRES

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to the examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, after the title, insert the following heading and new paragraph as follows:

**--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

a<sup>1</sup>

This application is a continuation of international application number PCT/EP00/04134, filed May 9, 2000, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, and claims the priority of European Patent Application No. 99109154.7, filed